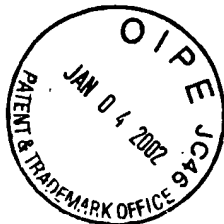


Exhibit

A



Date Mailed: September 19, 2001 | By: AW/cle | PTO DATE STAMP:
Serial No.: 09/872,796 | Docket No.: 50544.00004 (NVLS 379)
Applicant(s): Craig L. Stevens
Title: ARCHITECTURE FOR HIGH THROUGHPUT SEMICONDUCTOR PROCESSING APPLICATIONS

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